GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1099
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
EXPENDITURE ON HEALTH SECTOR IN RURAL AREAS
Patil Shri Pratik Prakashbapu

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of National Income spent on the Health Services particularly in the Rural Areas;

(b) whether the Government is considering to increase the expenditure on health services; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) According to the Economic Survey 2007-08, Public spending on health inclusive of social determinants like drinking water and nutrition is 1.39% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2007-08. It is not possible to categorize health expenditure specifically in terms of rural and urban areas as health programmes/schemes are area neutral and the amounts spent depend on the disease burden status and the local requirements.

(b) & (c) The National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) has mandated that the Government will raise public spending on health to at-least 2-3% of GDP over the next five years with focus on primary healthcare. The strategy adopted in the 11th Plan is also aimed at enhancing the levels of public health spending as a % of GDP by promoting comprehensive primary and secondary health care under the National Rural Health Mission develop tertiary healthcare facilities under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) and concrete measures to arrest HIV/AIDS and other communicable and life style diseases.